# Peerage of Ireland

The **Peerage of Ireland** consists of those titles of nobility created by the English monarchs in their capacity as Lord or King of Ireland, or later by monarchs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.[note 1] The creation of such titles came to an end in the 19th century. The ranks of the Irish peerage are Duke, Marquess, Earl, Viscount and Baron. As of 2016, there were 135 titles in the Peerage of Ireland extant: two dukedoms, ten marquessates, 43 earldoms, 28 viscountcies, and 52 baronies. The Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland continues to exercise jurisdiction over the Peerage of Ireland, including those peers whose titles derive from places located in what is now the Republic of Ireland.[1] Article 40.2 of the Irish Constitution forbids the state conferring titles of nobility and a citizen may not accept titles of nobility or honour except with the prior approval of the Government.[2] As stated above, this issue does not arise in respect of the Peerage of Ireland, as no creations of titles in it have been made since the Constitution came into force.

In the following table, each peer is listed only by his or her highest Irish title, showing higher or equal titles in the other peerages. Those peers who are known by a higher title in one of the other peerages are listed in *italics*.

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## History

A handful of titles in the peerage of Ireland date from the Middle Ages. Before 1801, Irish peers had the right to sit in the Irish House of Lords, on the abolition of which by the Union effective in 1801 by an Act of 1800 they regularly elected a small proportion: twenty-eight *representative peers* of their number to the House of Lords at Westminster.[3]

Both before and after the Union, Irish peerages were often used as a way of creating peerages which did not grant a seat in the English House of Lords and so allowed the grantee (such as Clive of India) to sit in the House of Commons in London. As a consequence, many Irish peers had little or no connection to Ireland, and indeed the names of some Irish peerages refer to places in Great Britain (for example, the Earldom of Mexborough refers to a place in England and the Ranfurly refers to a village in Scotland). Irish peerages continued to be created for almost a century after the Union, although the treaty of Union placed restrictions on their numbers: three needed to become extinct before a new peerage could be granted, until there were only one hundred Irish peers (exclusive of those who held any peerage of Great Britain subsisting at the time of the union, or of the United Kingdom created since the union)– a condition still not achieved. There was a spate of creations of Irish peerages from 1797 onward, mostly peerages of higher ranks for existing Irish peers, as part of the negotiation of the Act of Union; this ended in the first week of January 1801, but the restrictions of the Act were not applied to the last few peers. Irish peerages were created in the early nineteenth century at least as

often as the Act permitted, but the pace then slowed.

William FitzGerald, 2nd Duke of Leinster.

The last two grants of Irish peerages were: the promotion of the Marquess of Abercorn (a peerage of Great Britain) to be Duke of Abercorn in the Irish Peerage when he became Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in 1868 and the granting of the Curzon of Kedleston barony to George Curzon when he became Viceroy of India in 1898. Peers of Ireland have precedence below peers of England, Scotland, and Great Britain of the same rank, and above peers of the United Kingdom of the same rank; but Irish peers created after 1801 yield to United Kingdom peers of earlier creation. Accordingly, the Duke of Abercorn (the junior Duke in the Peerage of Ireland) ranks between the Duke of Sutherland and the Duke of Westminster (both dukes in the Peerage of the United Kingdom).

When one of the Irish representative peers died, the Irish Peerage met to elect his replacement; but the officers required to arrange this were abolished as part of the creation of the Irish Free State. The existing representative peers kept their seats in the House of Lords, but they have not been replaced. Since the death of Francis Needham, 4th Earl of Kilmorey in 1961, none remains. The right of the Irish Peerage to elect representatives was abolished by the Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1971.

Titles in the Peerage of the United Kingdom have also referred to places in Ireland, for example Baron Arklow (created 1801 and 1881) or Baron Killarney (created 1892 and 1920). Since partition, only places in Northern Ireland have been used, although the 1880 title "Baron Mount Temple, of Mount Temple in the County of Sligo", was recreated in 1932 as "Baron Mount Temple, of Lee in the County of Southampton".

# Extant peerages

In the following table of the Peerage of Ireland as it currently stands,[4] each peer's highest titles in each of the other peerages (if any) are also listed. Irish peers possessed of titles in any of the other peerages (except Scotland, which only got the right to an automatic seat in 1963, with the Peerage Act 1963) had automatic seats in the House of Lords until 1999.

## Dukes in the Peerage of Ireland

| Title | Creation | Other Dukedom or higher titles |
|---|---|---|
| **Kingdom of Ireland** | | |
| The Duke of Leinster | 1766 | Sat as Viscount Leinster in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords until 1999;<br>Lord Kildare in the Peerage of the United Kingdom |
| **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland** | | |
| The Duke of Abercorn | 1868 | Sat as Marquess of Abercorn in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords until 1999;<br>Earl of Abercorn in the Peerage of Scotland |

## Marquesses in the Peerage of Ireland

| Title | Creation | Other Marquisette or higher titles |
|---|---|---|
| **Kingdom of Ireland** | | |
| The Marquess of Waterford | 1789 | Sat as Lord Tyrone in the Peerage of Great Britainin House of Lords until 1999. |
| The Marquess of Downshire | 1789 | Sat as Earl of Hillsboroughin the Peerage of Great Britainin House of Lords until 1999. |
| The Marquess of Donegall | 1791 | Sat as Lord Fisherwickin the Peerage of Great Britainin House of Lords until 1999;<br>Sat as Lord Templemore in the Peerage of the United Kingdomin House of Lords from 1975–1999. |
| The Marquess of Headfort | 1800 | Sat as Lord Kenlis in the Peerage of the United Kingdomin House of Lords from 1831–1999. |
| The Marquess of Sligo | 1800 | Sat as Lord Monteagle in the Peerage of the United Kingdomin House of Lords from 1806–1999. |
| The Marquess of Ely | 1800 | Sat as Lord Loftus in the Peerage of the United Kingdomin House of Lords from 1801–1999. |
| **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland** | | |
| The Marquess of Londonderry | 1816 | Sat as Earl Vane in the Peerage of the United Kingdomin House of Lords from 1823–1999. |
| The Marquess Conyngham | 1816 | Sat as Lord Minster in the Peerage of the United Kingdomin House of Lords from 1821–1999. |

## Earls in the Peerage of Ireland

- Subsidiary title.

| Title | Creation | Other Earldom or higher titles |
|---|---|---|
| | | **Kingdom of Ireland** |
| The Earl of Waterford | 1446 | Sat as Earl of Shrewsbury in the Peerage of England in House of Lords until 1999;<br>Earl Talbot in the Peerage of Great Britain |
| The Earl of Cork | 1620 | Earl of Orrery in the Peerage of Ireland;<br>Sat as Lord Boyle of Marston in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords until 1999. |
| The Earl of Westmeath | 1621 | |
| The Earl of Meath | 1627 | Sat as Lord Chaworth in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1831–1999. |
| The Earl of Desmond | 1628 | *Earl of Denbigh in the Peerage of England* |
| The Earl of Cavan | 1647 | |
| *The Earl of Orrery* | *1660* | *Held with Earl of Cork in the Peerage of Ireland;*<br>*Sat as Lord Boyle of Marston in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords until 1999.* |
| The Earl of Drogheda | 1661 | Sat as Lord Moore in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1954–1999. |
| The Earl of Granard | 1684 | Sat as Lord Granard in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1806–1999. |
| *The Earl of Kerry* | *1722* | *Marquess of Lansdowne in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| The Earl of Darnley | 1725 | Sat as Lord Clifton in the Peerage of England in House of Lords from 1937–1999. |
| The Earl of Bessborough | 1739 | Sat as Lord Ponsonby in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1749–1999;<br>Lord Duncannon in the Peerage of the United Kingdom |
| The Earl of Carrick | 1748 | Sat as Lord Butler in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1912–1999. |
| *The Earl of Shelburne* | *1753* | *Marquess of Lansdowne in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| The Earl of Shannon | 1756 | Lord Carleton in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1786–1999. |
| *The Earl of Mornington* | *1760* | *Duke of Wellington in the Peerage of the United Kingdom* |
| The Earl of Arran | 1762 | Sat as Lord Sudley in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1884–1999. |
| The Earl of Courtown | 1762 | Sat as Lord Saltersford in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1796–1999. |
| The Earl of Mexborough | 1766 | |
| The Earl Winterton | 1766 | |
| The Earl of Kingston | 1768 | |
| The Earl of Roden | 1771 | |
| The Earl of Lisburne | 1776 | |
| The Earl of Clanwilliam | 1776 | Sat as Lord Clanwilliam in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1828–1999. |
| The Earl of Antrim | 1785 | |
| The Earl of Longford | 1785 | Sat as Lord Silchester in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1821–1999; |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | Sat as Lord Pakenham in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1961–1999. |
| The Earl of Portarlington | 1785 | |
| The Earl of Mayo | 1785 | |
| The Earl Annesley | 1789 | |
| The Earl of Enniskillen | 1789 | Sat as Lord Grinstead in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1815–1999. |
| The Earl Erne | 1789 | Sat as Lord Fermanagh in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1876–1999. |
| The Earl of Lucan | 1795 | Sat as Lord Bingham in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1934–1974/1999. |
| The Earl of Leitrim | 1795 | |
| The Earl Belmore | 1797 | |
| The Earl Castle Stewart | 1800 | |
| The Earl of Donoughmore | 1800 | Sat as Viscount Hutchinson in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1821–1999. |
| The Earl of Caledon | 1800 | |
| **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland** | | |
| The Earl of Limerick | 1803 | Sat as Lord Foxford in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1815–1999. |
| The Earl of Clancarty | 1803 | Sat as Viscount Clancarty in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1823–1999. |
| The Earl of Gosford | 1806 | Sat as Lord Worlingham in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1835–1999;<br>Sat as Lord Acheson in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1847–1999. |
| The Earl of Rosse | 1806 | |
| The Earl of Normanton | 1806 | Sat as Lord Mendip in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1974–1999;<br>Sat as Lord Somerton in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1873–1999. |
| The Earl of Kilmorey | 1822 | |
| The Earl of Listowel | 1822 | Sat as Lord Hare in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1869–1999. |
| The Earl of Norbury | 1827 | |
| The Earl of Ranfurly | 1831 | Sat as Lord Ranfurly in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1826–1999. |

## Viscounts in the Peerage of Ireland

- Subsidiary title.

| Title | Creation | Other Viscountcy or higher titles |
|---|---|---|
| | | **Kingdom of Ireland** |
| The Viscount Gormanston | 1478 | Sat as Lord Gormanston in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1868–1999. |
| The Viscount Mountgarret | 1550 | Sat as Lord Mountgarret in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1911–1999. |
| *The Viscount Grandison* | *1620* | *Earl of Jersey in the Peerage of England* |
| The Viscount Valentia | 1622 | |
| The Viscount Dillon | 1622 | |
| *The Viscount Lumley* | *1628* | *Earl of Scarbrough in the Peerage of England* |
| The Viscount Massereene | 1660 | Held by with Viscount Ferrard in the Peerage of Ireland.<br>Sat as Lord Oriel in the Peerage of the United Kingdom from 1821–1999. |
| *The Viscount Cholmondeley* | *1661* | *Marquess of Cholmondeley in the Peerage of the United Kingdom*<br>*Earl of Cholmondeley in the Peerage of England*<br>*Lord Newburgh in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| The Viscount Charlemont | 1665 | |
| The Viscount Downe | 1681 | Sat as Lord Dawnay in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1897–1999. |
| The Viscount Molesworth | 1716 | |
| The Viscount Chetwynd | 1717 | |
| The Viscount Midleton | 1717 | Sat as Lord Brodrick in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1796–1999. |
| The Viscount Boyne | 1717 | Lord Brancepeth in the Peerage of the United Kingdom from 1866–1999. |
| *The Viscount Grimston* | *1719* | *Earl of Verulam in the Peerage of the United Kingdom*<br>*Lord Forrester in the Peerage of Scotland*<br>*Lord Verulam in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| The Viscount Gage | 1720 | Sat as Lord Gage in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1790–1999. |
| The Viscount Galway | 1727 | |
| The Viscount Powerscourt | 1743 | Sat as Lord Powerscourt in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1885–1999. |
| The Viscount Ashbrook | 1751 | |
| The Viscount Southwell | 1776 | |
| The Viscount de Vesci | 1776 | |
| The Viscount Lifford | 1781 | |
| The Viscount Bangor | 1781 | |
| The Viscount Doneraile | 1785 | |
| The Viscount Harberton | 1791 | |
| The Viscount Hawarden | 1793 | |

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|---|---|---|
| The Viscount Ferrard | 1797 | *Held by with Viscount Massereene in the Peerage of Ireland*<br>Sat as Lord Oriel in the Peerage of the United Kingdom from 1821–1999. |
| **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland** | | |
| The Viscount Monck | 1801 | Sat as Lord Monck in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1866–1999. |
| The Viscount Gort | 1816 | |

## Barons in the Peerage of Ireland

In Ireland, *barony* may also refer to an obsolete political subdivision of a county. There is no connection between such a barony and the noble title of baron.

- Subsidiary title.

| Title | Creation | Other Barony or higher titles |
|---|---|---|
| **Kingdom of Ireland** | | |
| The Lord Kingsale | 1397 | |
| The Lord Dunsany | 1439 | |
| The Lord Trimlestown | 1461 | |
| The Lord Dunboyne | 1541 | |
| The Lord Louth | 1541 | |
| The Lord Inchiquin | 1543 | |
| The Lord Digby | 1620 | Sat as Lord Digby in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1765–1999. |
| *The Lord Conway and Killultagh* | *1712* | *Marquess of Hertford in the Peerage of Great Britain*<br>*Lord Conway in the Peerage of England* |
| *The Lord Newborough* | *1715* | *Marquess of Cholmondeley in the Peerage of the United Kingdom* |
| The Lord Carbery | 1715 | |
| The Lord Aylmer | 1718 | |
| The Lord Farnham | 1756 | |
| The Lord Lisle | 1758 | |
| *The Lord Clive* | *1762* | *Earl of Powis in the Peerage of the United Kingdom*<br>*Lord Clive in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| *The Lord Mulgrave* | *1767* | *Marquess of Normanby in the Peerage of the United Kingdom* |
| The Lord Newborough | 1776 | |
| The Lord Macdonald | 1776 | |
| The Lord Kensington | 1776 | Lord Kensington in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1886–1999. |
| *The Lord Westcote* | *1776* | *Viscount Cobham in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| The Lord Massy | 1776 | |
| The Lord Muskerry | 1781 | |
| *The Lord Hood* | *1782* | *Viscount Hood in the Peerage of Great Britain* |
| The Lord Sheffield | 1783 | Sat as Lord Stanley of Alderley in Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1903–1999;<br>Sat as Lord Eddisbury in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1903–1999. |
| The Lord Kilmaine | 1789 | |
| The Lord Auckland | 1789 | Sat as Lord Auckland in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1793–1999. |
| The Lord Waterpark | 1792 | |
| *The Lord Bridport* | *1794* | *Viscount Bridport in the Peerage of the United Kingdom* |
| The Lord Graves | 1794 | |
| The Lord Huntingfield | 1796 | |
| The Lord Carrington | 1796 | Sat as Lord Carrington in the Peerage of Great Britain in House of Lords from 1797–1999. |
| The Lord Rossmore | 1796 | Sat as Lord Rossmore in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1838–1999. |
| The Lord Hotham | 1797 | |

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|---|---|---|
| The Lord Crofton | 1797 | |
| The Lord ffrench | 1798 | |
| The Lord Henley | 1799 | Sat as Lord Northington in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1885–1999. |
| The Lord Langford | 1800 | |
| The Lord Dufferin and Claneboye | 1800 | |
| The Lord Henniker | 1800 | Sat as Lord Hartismere in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1866–1999. |
| The Lord Ventry | 1800 | |
| The Lord Dunalley | 1800 | |
| The Lord Clanmorris | 1800 | |
| The Lord Ashtown | 1800 | |
| **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland** | | |
| The Lord Rendlesham | 1806 | |
| The Lord Castlemaine | 1812 | |
| The Lord Decies | 1812 | |
| The Lord Garvagh | 1818 | |
| The Lord Talbot of Malahide | 1831 | |
| The Lord Carew | 1834 | Sat as Lord Carew in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1838–1999. |
| The Lord Oranmore and Browne | 1836 | Sat as Lord Mereworth in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in House of Lords from 1926–1999. |
| The Lord Bellew | 1848 | |
| The Lord Fermoy | 1865 | |
| The Lord Rathdonnell | 1868 | |

# See also

- List of Irish representative peers
- Irish nobility, which distinguishes three groups of Irish nobilitythe other two being:
  - Gaelic nobility of Ireland
  - Hiberno-Normans

# Notes

1. With the establishment of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the separate title "King of Ireland" ceased.

# References


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4. *Cracroft's Peerage* – The Peerage of Ireland(http://www.cracroftspeerage.co.uk/online/content/Peerage%20of%20Ireland.htm?zoom_highlight=Ireland)

# External links

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